



# C.O.A.S.T.\* Connections

The Newsletter of the Greater New Bedford Health & Human Service Coalition (GTHHSC) – [www.geocities.com/gnbhsc](http://www.geocities.com/gnbhsc)  
Serving Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester and Wareham

Volume I, No.3

August 2006

*You Are Cordially Invited to*

## **A DAY AWAY III**

**“A Day at the Zoo”**

*Friday, August 4, 2006, 8:30am-1:00pm  
At Buttonwood Park Education Center  
New Bedford, MA*

**Plan the Future of the Coalition  
Meet Our Marketing and Website Consultants,  
Moore & Isherwood**



*Breakfast and Lunch  
Door Prize*

Kindly RSVP before Friday, July 28, 2006,  
to Lorraine Rosa at **508-823-4822**

*Serving the Communities of  
Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester and Wareham*



## ROOTS OF OPPRESSION PANEL PRESENTATION HELD JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> AT BUTTONWOOD PARK

Greater New Bedford area service providers attended a special panel oppression on Friday, June 21, 2006. Freddi Carbone, Civilian Advocate of the New Bedford Police Department, welcomed area providers to begin a dialog and thinking about ways to address various issues of oppression, and the effects on their clients.

The work to end domestic and sexual violence must include the fight against all forms of oppression, which unduly affect women, children and other marginalized people. A series of panelists spoke about the interconnectedness of domestic and sexual violence to actively raise issues of oppression faced by victims of domestic and sexual violence.

**Pamela MacLeod-Lima, The Women's Center,** shared definitions of oppression, intersectionality, principles of anti-oppression. Besides the various external forms of oppression is internalized oppression. Area residents come with ideas and experiences from other cultures, and may not realize that things are different here. A domestic violence victim who is also undocumented may fear that calling the police will lead to deportation. They may fear losing their children because their child rearing techniques are not the same as American ideas.

The Women's Center provides free and confidential 24-hour, easily accessible services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child trauma. They provide counseling, education, outreach, referrals

and resources. Their mission is to empower and support positive choices for all and to educate and take action in the community for the prevention of oppression and violence.

**Gail Fortes, YWCA** knows many individuals who utilize services represented by the day's attendees benefit from the YWCA mission to empower women and eliminate racism. Programs include the Economic Empowerment Program's childcare programs for women and youth, programs for youth, breast and cervical cancer program, insurance services to undocumented and other aliens, residential programs. The Racial Justice Program, an 8 hour training session, works with community organizations to look at the role of racism in everyday life, and cultural competency. The training includes the "Color of Fear" video on how racism effects lives, the use of the "Brown-Eyed, Blue-Eyed" demonstration and 3 hours of cultural competency on the diverse populations in New Bedford. Attendees were encouraged to eliminate stereotypes, provide a warm reception area, provide language diversity in publications, train staff in cultural competency and eliminating racism, work with the legal system and police, and continue to work together and speak up against racist comments.

**Maria Alves, Seven Hills Behavioral Health, Inc.** and staff "meet people where they're at" to ask them how they can best be served. Their street outreach is an important link

between clients and services, as well as relationship building, listening and filling basic needs, rather than waiting for reluctant individuals to access services on their own. They are also closely connected to other service organizations in the greater New Bedford area.

Some services include Project Care case management services for HIV+ individuals, Home of Hope for women outreach center (street outreach and a drop in center with structured services for women at risk for HIV/AIDS), Luis E. Martinez House (HIV/AIDS residence provides subsidized, independent living services for HIV+ and homeless individuals), HIV counseling & testing (anonymous services in office, mobile unit and on the street), Gifford Street (Opioid treatment and maintenance) and S.T.E.P Program (mobile street outreach to educate and prevent HIV/AIDS).



**Dan Gilberg, Coalition for Social Justice** stressed the need for equality and respect. Oppression underlies the causes of violence and perceived and/or real insults effect self-esteem. Inequality is behind much of the violence in society.

Two broad issues need to be addressed: 1.) Our society is a factory for social problems that can't be solved by in services

alone, and 2.) What can we do about this? We can do our own best according to the guidelines given at this conference and impact public policy issues, such as the minimum wage bill. The Coalition for Social Justice invites interested ones to become

part of their roster by calling Dan at **508-982-8157**, and joining rallies at special events to speak out.

Attendees completed evaluation surveys to be used as a basis for following through and planning a community

conference. The full report of the June panel presentation, including bios of presenters and evaluations, will soon be available at our website, at [www.geocities.com/gnbhsc](http://www.geocities.com/gnbhsc). Have a safe and happy summer♥

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## **FDA Licenses New Vaccine for Prevention of Cervical Cancer and Other Diseases in Females Caused by Human Papilloma Virus** *Rapid Approval Marks Major Advancement in Public Health*

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced the approval of Gardasil, the first vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer, precancerous genital lesions and genital warts due to human papillomavirus (HPV) types 6, 11, 16 and 18. The vaccine is approved for use in females 9-26 years of age.

HPV is the most common sexually-transmitted infection in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 6.2 million Americans become infected with genital HPV each year and that over half of all sexually active men and women

become infected at some time in their lives. For most women, the body's own defense system will clear the virus and infected women do not develop related health problems. However, some HPV types can cause abnormal cells on the lining of the cervix that years later can turn into cancer. Other HPV types can cause genital warts. The vaccine is effective against HPV types 16 and 18, which cause approximately 70 percent of cervical cancers and against HPV types 6 and 11, which cause approximately 90 percent of genital warts.

Immunization with Gardasil is expected to prevent most cases

of cervical cancer due to HPV types included in the vaccine. However, females are not protected if they have been infected with that HPV type(s) prior to vaccination. Gardasil does not protect against less common HPV types not included in the vaccine, thus routine and regular pap screening remain critically important to detect precancerous changes in the cervix to allow treatment before cervical cancer develops.

For more information, see <http://www.fda.gov/womens/getthefacts/hpv.html> ♠



### *Did You Know That...?*



#### **Underage Drinking Laws Enforcement Training Center 7<sup>th</sup> Annual National Leadership Conference**

is being held in Baltimore on August 24-26. For information and agenda, see [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org).

#### **Resources**

**New Social Justice Website** is an online directory of social change and environmental

organizations in S.E. MA and the Cape. The tool fosters networking and helps build community in the region. You can publicize your events on the online calendar, announce action alerts on the listserv, and locate other organizations to collaborate on campaigns. For information about how to add your organization or activities to the website, go to [www.semactivist.org](http://www.semactivist.org) or email [info@semactivist.org](mailto:info@semactivist.org).

#### **Grant Opportunities**

**Nutrition/Physical Activity** - "Targeting Obesity in Young Women to Prevent the Development of Type II Diabetes" is open to profit and not for profit community based organizations. Closing date for the \$98,000 grant is **7/20/06**. See <http://egrants.osophs.dhhs.gov/>. For assistance in electronic access, contact the help desk at **800-518-4726**. Visit

[www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) to learn more about an obesity grant geared toward young women. See Funding Opportunity Number: OWH-OYW-06-001.

**HIV/AIDS** – Community-based AIDS organizations and cable outlets partner in joint community outreach efforts, or produce and distribute new, locally focused HIV/AIDS-related programs and public service announcements. Awards up to \$5,000. Eligible local community outreach projects include, but are not limited to World AIDS Day (December 1) and National HIV Testing Day (June 27) events, AIDS Rides/Walks, other joint efforts between AIDS organizations, and local cable operators, etc. Funding is also available for production costs of HIV/AIDS-related programs and PSAs. Due date **9/15/06**. See [www.cablepositive.org/programs-tonycox.html](http://www.cablepositive.org/programs-tonycox.html) Contact person is Thomas Henning, **212-459-1606** or [thenning@cablepositive.org](mailto:thenning@cablepositive.org).

### Obesity

**5 A Day Coalition** next meeting is **7/13/06** from 9-11:00 at MDPH 250 Washington Street in conference room 5 B.



The new fruit and vegetable national brand campaign and plans will be shared, as well as timeline, application to be a licensee and our work plan. To attend by phone hooked up or RSVP your attendance ensuring adequate handouts, please call Cynthia at **617-624-5439**.

**Food Marketing and Childhood Obesity** – A Matter of Policy "Food marketing, the IOM says, intentionally targets

children who are too young to distinguish advertising from truth and induces them to eat high-calorie, low-nutrient (but highly profitable) "junk" foods; companies succeed so well in this effort that business-as-usual cannot be allowed to continue." [NEJM June 15, 2006] *New England Journal of Medicine* by Marion Nestle, PhD, MPH. Vol. 354(24) pp.2537-2529. June 15, 2006. <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/354/24/2527?query=TOC>

**Obesity – The New Frontier of Public Health Law** - Anti-obesity initiatives are found to be more likely to be accepted if focused on children, adolescents. Additional research on food marketing could also lead to regulation by the federal government or self-regulation within the industry. Initial efforts should focus on improving public awareness of the food environment as a precursor to regulation. [NEJM, Vol. 354(24) pp.2601-2610 June 15, 2006]. <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/354/24/2601?query=TOC>

**MassHealth Participating Dentists** are now listed at provider bulletin has been distributed and can be viewed at <http://www.mass.gov/masshealth/dentists>.



**One Fourth of Global Disease Preventable Using Current Techniques** - The World Health Organization reports that 1/4 of global disease is based on environmental factors which existing interventions could modify. [truthout.org 6/16/06] [http://www.truthout.org/issues\\_06/061606HA.shtml](http://www.truthout.org/issues_06/061606HA.shtml)

**Medicare Part D** - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has instructed newly eligible "duals" to enroll in Part D through WellPoint only, and this enrollment occurs only at the pharmacy counter. Once a person is enrolled, coverage will be effective immediately. This WellPoint enrollment will prompt CMS to contact the individual for enrollment in a permanent plan. Anyone encountering a pharmacy that is not aware of this process or is having difficulty can contact the CMS Boston Regional Office at **617-565-1232** or by e-mail at [BostonPartDinquiries@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:BostonPartDinquiries@cms.hhs.gov)

### Employment and Job Trainings

**Child Trauma Program Counselor/Advocate** for The Women's Center (Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Agency) Please send resume & cover letter by 7/21/06 to Executive Director, The Women's Center, 405 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 by 7/21/06

**Bilingual Counselor/Advocate** The Greater New Bedford Women's Center is also seeking a Bilingual (Portuguese or Spanish) counselor/advocate to provide individual counseling, walk-in crisis intervention and community outreach focusing particularly on the immigrant community in greater New Bedford and Fall River. Send resume and cover letter to: Executive Director, The Women's Center, 405 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 by 7/21/06

**The City of Fall River, Youth Services Department has (4) vacancies** for Youth Outreach Worker, \$14.00 per hour, Full-time – 35 hours weekly (3 positions – one year), Part-time – 24 hours weekly (1 position – one year) Please submit your letter of interest and resume to: Frank A. Sullivan, Director of Personnel & Training, One Government Center, Fall River, MA. A complete Job Description may be obtained in the Personnel and Training Office.

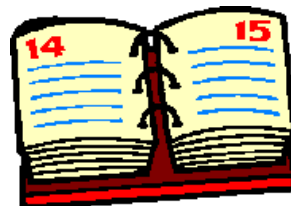
**Study Coordinator** - The Brown Center for the Study of Children at Risk at Brown Medical School and Women and Infants Hospital has a position available for a full-time Study Coordinator. The study is a clinical trial for pregnant opioid addicted women in New

Bedford, MA, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Interested candidates should apply on-line at [www.womenandinfants.org](http://www.womenandinfants.org). Click on Job Opportunities. Equal Opportunity Employer, or call **508-992-0619**.

**HIV Case Manager**, Part-time, 20 hours / week, day shift for the Quincy South Shore AIDS Cares. Entry-level candidates are welcome, MSW or BSW, HIV and/or substance abuse counseling experience preferred. Bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply. Qualified applicants, please send a resume and cover letter to Kim Kroeger Quincy Medical Center 114 Whitwell Street Quincy, MA 02169 FAX: 617-376-2041 [kkroeger@quincymc.org](mailto:kkroeger@quincymc.org)

**GLBT Health Programs Training Specialist** (Full-time) - Facilitate trainings, organize and facilitate networking meetings, provide technical assistance and referrals to health and human service agencies and schools, work with Program Director, write and disseminate monthly electronic networking newsletter, develop and maintain additional resources, participate in division meetings as assigned, other duties as assigned. Transgender, bisexual, lesbian, and gay applicants strongly encouraged to apply. Fax resumes to: **508-583-9809** E-mail to: [lowings@hcsm.org](mailto:lowings@hcsm.org) Mail to: Health Care of SE MA 942 West chestnut Street Brockton, MA 02301 Attn: Linda Owings

## GNBHHSC Summer Calendar of Events



<b>July 21, 12:30</b>	<b>GNBHHSC Steering Committee Meeting</b>	New Bedford Family Planning, Howland Place
<b>August 4, 8:30-1:00</b>	<b>A Day Away III: A Day at the Zoo.</b> Must RSVP by July 28, to Lorraine Rosa at <a href="mailto:mcaprosa@yahoo.com">mcaprosa@yahoo.com</a> , or call 508-823-4833	Buttonwood Park Zoo Wildlife Education Center 425 Hawthorn St., New Bedford
<b>Sept. 7, 9:00</b>	<b>GNBHHSC General Meeting</b>	Coastline Elderly Services 1646 Purchase St., New Bedford, MA
<b>Sept. 8, 12:30-2:00</b>	<b>GNBHHSC Domestic Violence Committee.</b>	South Coastal Counties Legal Services, 21 South Sixth St., New Bedford, MA

The Vision: A healthy environment where everyone experiences community, opportunity, access, safety and trust (COAST)\*

The Mission of the GNBHHSC is to channel our community into action to achieve a better quality of life for everyone. We

1. Provide information about resources and services in order to promote coordination and to encourage their use by the public
2. Address needs and build on community assets
3. Celebrate and reward community successes



**GNBHHSC**  
**P.O. Box 7567**  
**New Bedford, MA 02742-7567**

To submit an article, announcement or other information to the next C.O.A.S.T. Connections, email [mcaprosa@yahoo.com](mailto:mcaprosa@yahoo.com), or call **508-823-4822** by August 15, 2006. You may also access copies of C.O.A.S.T. Connections at [www.geocities.com/gnbhhsc](http://www.geocities.com/gnbhhsc)